AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An inventory management system established between computers of a product manufacturer and at least one component part supplier over a network connection, for correctly evaluating <u>the</u> capability of supplying <u>a</u> component part by each component part supplier, the system including the steps of:

estimating a demand <u>of for component parts on during</u> a forthcoming period of time in accordance with orders inputted and writing the same in a database of the system;

producing a document based on types and quantities of the components parts, transmitting the document to the computers of each component part supplier through the network connection, and requesting each component part supplier to return a promised quantity of the component parts on during the forthcoming period of time to the product manufacturer;

receiving the promised quantity of the component parts of each component part supplier on during the forthcoming period of time by the product manufacturer and writing the same in the database;

writing an actual delivery of the promised quantity of the component parts of each component part supplier on during the forthcoming period of time in the database;

reading data from the database for calculating a promise execution ratio and a delivery execution ratio of each component part supplier on during the forthcoming period of time with respect to the component parts,

wherein:

the promise execution ratio = the promised quantity of the component parts / the estimated demand of <u>for</u> the component parts, and

Serial Number 09/993,479

the delivery execution ratio = the actual delivery of the promised quantity
of the component parts / the promised quantity of the component parts, and
producing a daily evaluation table of each component part supplier as a reference by the
product manufacturer.

- 2. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the estimated demand of for the component parts is an accumulation of the estimated demand of for the component parts received by each component part supplier from the product manufacturer on during the forthcoming period of time.
- 3. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the promised quantity of the component parts is an accumulation of the promised quantity of the component parts by each component part supplier with respect to the estimated demand of for the component parts on during the forthcoming period of time.
- 4. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the promise execution ratio and the delivery execution ratio having a percentage smaller than 100% are deemed as a fail and are represented by 0, the promise execution ratio and the delivery execution ratio having a percentage larger than 100% are deemed as a success and are represented by 100, and the value of 0 or 100 is then written in a field of the promise execution ratio or the delivery execution ratio of the daily evaluation table by the system.
- 5. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the daily evaluation table of each component part supplier is accumulated as a regular evaluation table comprising the promise execution ratio and the delivery execution ratio of each component part supplier on during the forthcoming period of time.
- 6. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the regular evaluation table comprises:

Serial Number 09/993,479

the estimated demand of for the component parts on during the forthcoming period of time transmitted by the product manufacturer to each component part supplier;

the quantity of the component parts promised by each component part supplier on during the forthcoming period of time in response to the estimated demand of for the component parts; and

the actual delivery of the promised quantity of the component parts by each component part supplier on during the forthcoming period of time.

7. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the regular evaluation table further comprises the promise execution ratio and the delivery execution ratio of each component part supplier, wherein:

the promise execution ratio = the number of items promised in response to the estimated demand of for the component parts / the number of the component part items estimated on during the forthcoming period of time; and

the deliver execution ratio = the number of the component part items actually delivered in response to the promised demand of for the component parts / the number of items promised in response to the estimated demand of for the component parts.